CHAPTER IV-Continued.

torch was slowly swinging to and fro, giv-

ing the call "Attention! News!" and now,

excitement adding to his worries, Piggott

turned to Lafferty, who had seated him-

self at the edge of the board walk, his el-

bows on his knees, his face in his hands,

and was now toppling over in the sleep of utter exhaustion. "Here, wake up, man!"

cried the major. "This is no time for sleep-

ing! Run and call the signal sergeant! Tell

him to bring his kit! Tell him to come like

a shot!" and as Lafferty stumbled half

blindly away Piggott feverishly resumed

his stare at the distant agency. Just as he

feared, there was a blaze among the timber

far up the range. There was another far

over to the southwest at the very apex

And then came the sergeant of the guard piloting the officer-of-the-day, and in that

officer Piggott knew he need look for

neither sympathy nor consolation. A sol-dier every inch of him was Captain Haz-

lett of the Infantry, a man who held his tongue and temper both in leash and did

his duty, a man who knew more about the Apache and Apache land than Piggott

probably could ever learn. They had rub-

bed each other's fur the wrong way from the first week of their association at the post. Piggott was timid, irresolute, vacil-

-influence. There had been controversy be-tween Hazlett and the agent over the lat-

Piggott should have known better than to decide as he did. Then instead of sending

for both Hazlett and his aggrieved sergeant and making manly reparation, the major

sulked in his tent and swore there was no more loyalty in the cavalry.

who came bounding over the acequias that bordered the parade, followed by two active

fellow soldiers, bearing their long torch wands and the paraphernalia for night sig-

naling. Not for a year had there been a summons at such an hour. Captain and sergeant both well knew how the major had insisted that the original stories were

had insisted that the original stories were exaggerated; had refused to believe the reports of outlying sentries and patrols to the effect that Indians by the dozen were leaving the reservation and slipping southwestward. And now it had fallen to their lot to be witness and transmitter, respectively,

of important message coming in at the dead of night; one, moreover, that could only add

sorely to Piggott's discomfiture.
"See what they want as quick as you

can, sergeant," he cried in nervous haste.
"They may have been waving an hour.
Sentries can hardly see that torch with the

the strong grasp of a tall infantryman. "Answer at once. Never mind the rest,"

said the captain, while his men went on setting foot torch and flame shades, and

then as the post adjutant, bringing his own glasses, came hurrying back to join them,

with powerful sweep the long torch was whirled swiftly down twice in quick suc-

cession to the bearer's left; twice again; twice a third time; then from the vertical it

sank slowly to earth directly in front. "22-22-22-3" is signaled. "All right. We see

you. We're ready. Go ahead with your message," it said. And, though it was all

Greek to him, Piggott gazed through his binocular; the adjutant brought his glass

to bear, while the sergeant steaded the long telescope against a tree box, and sta-

of Sombrero Peak.

Surely enough. Late as it was, a signal

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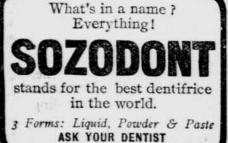
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Summer Desserts

Have us serve dairy products from our sanitary dairy. JOHN HARTUNG

The sergeant had returned to his company, hurt and humiliated. The whole command sided with the sergeant, but had to "side" in silence. Piggott sought the support of his next in cavalry rank, Captain Turner, and Turner told him frankly that the state of the support of his next in cavalry rank. that Hazlett had known that agent three long years before he, Piggott, ever saw him, and, knowing Hazlett's reputation and having been warned as to that of the agent, And now it was Capt. Hazlett himself who came striding up the board walk in the faint and silvery moonlight. It was Sergt. Craig, erstwhile of the agency guard,



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As the Major Told It. But Turner, as we know, had found means of disregarding orders, of getting

CHAPTER V.

he major turned to Capt. Hazlett.

around and beyond the interposing Indians, of succoring Fane, and then of herding homeward the renegades. We know, too, that Fane and some, at least, of his people, though sorely hammered, were not killed, but it was two days before the modified comfort of this assurance reached the post commander, who meantime, fortunately, sent no further dispatch. "Bad news travels fast enough," said he. "And I do not feel justified in risking couriers through hostile Indian country until positive information is secured." Hazlett, to whom this was imparted, bowed solemnly and said nothing. The hostiles were almost as numerous and much more hostile when Toyah was dispatched with tidings that were based on no better authority, but Toyah bore announcement that would vastly benefit Piggott in point of professional reputation, and Piggott could carry much more of such report in his favor without being overburdened.

more of such report in his favor without being overburdened.

There were few women at this distant, isolated post, to which the mail came but once a week, and that by buckboard from the Gila valley. Two brave army women had followed officer husbands in exile, Mrs. Hazlett and Mrs. Gregg—Turner's wife preferring to winter in San Francisco, at least until he could get transferred to Sandy, where there were comfortable quarters, and they were only a day's ride from Prescott, Fort Whipple and lots of army gayety. But in gentle Mrs. Hazlett young Fane had already found a kind and helpful friend. The captain had served under Gen. Fane in the Army of the Cumberland; had welcomed the son for the sake of the father, and had begun to like him for his own. There was no way of cross-questioning the agent's authorities as to the direful story told. Moreover, as a result of three years' study of Apache characteristics, Hazlett told. Moreover, as a result of three years' study of Apache characteristics, Hazlett had learned to place more reliance on their

to escape Hazlett fully believed. That Fane and his party had been massacred to a man he regarded as more than probable. The sudden hegira of 300 braves could only have been caused by some such stirring emergency as the attempt to wrest a noted chief from the hands of his captors. That many or most of them were already back again went far to prove that, one way or another, their mission was ended; that with confidence the agent could signal that Solalay had escaped and was safe in the wilds of the Sierra Blanca added to Hazlett's firm conviction of the truth of the story. As for the rest of it, the doctrine of probabilities ruled in its favor. What chance had Fane and his little party, surrounded among the rocks of the Sierra by ten times his force in foes? It was with sad heart that Hazlett ventured home at 3 in the morning, praying she might be asleep and well knowing she would not be. She was up and had coffee ready for him, and his campaign kit spread out upon the bed, and had closed the door to the children's room lest they should wake and hear and be terrified; and from passing members of the guard she had heard the story and so spared him the sorrow of having to tell it. She met him with fond arms and kiss at the doorway to their little army home, and drew him within and hung his sword and belt upon their accustomed hook. "I heard it from one of our men," she said. "But I shall not believe it yet. Will you be sent out—do you think?"

"No one will be sent out," he answered, drawing her within the clasp of his strong arms, "no one, that is, except the couriers to call in all that are out—even the hay cutters, even the big guard at the Fork. Nell, how thankful I am we have no telegraph!"

"Then you think it—true?" she questioned her have a sent out.

post. Piggott was timid, irresolute, vach-lating. Hazlett was "vigorous in speech: in action prompt and bold." Hazlett "had no use," he frankly said, for the Indian agent at the reservation. Piggott was afraid of him, because that functionary of the bureau had what Piggott sorely desired how thankful I am we have no telegraph!"
"Then you think it—true?" she questioned, her brave eyes swimming, her lips quivering despite every effort at self-control.
"I-fear so, unless Turner-ignored his tween Hazlett and the agent over the lat-ter's injustice to a sergeant on duty with the agency guard. Piggott decided in the agent's favor, and found inside of six days that he had decided wrong. He should have set the sergeant right at once and officially, but he temporized and dodges.

orders.

Two big tears began to trickle down her sun-burned cheeks. They were heroines, these army women of "the days of the empire" — the early days of the conversion of the Apache. Privation they could and did endure; death they dared, but complexions they sacrificed—some of them irrevocably—to marital love and devotion. The woman of the orient blackens her teeth to prove her loyalty to the lord of her bosom. It is left for the army wife to tan her own skin. Madame Yale was then unknown. Cold cream would speedily have become hot and spoiled, and similar preparations could cream would speedily have become hot and spoiled, and similar preparations could never have survived a week of that fierce, furnace-like heat. The only balm that never lost its power to soothe was the kiss of love, gratitude and unchanging admiration that rewarded, if it could not quite repay, the lavish tribute of a wife's devotion. Nell Hazlett, sure of her soldier husband's heart and soul, was a happy woman even in her isolation, save when, as now, she had to think of other women's sorrows, and more than all others she was thinking now of Ronald Fane's mother and sisters, of whom he had talked to her every distance in the control of the contr

his soldier fate.
"He left certain things in my care," she murmured, nestling her chair close beside his own, after pouring his coffee. It lacked still three hours of dawn, but well she knew that he would not now rest, or remove his clothes, until relieved from guard, "And he asked me to take especial care of certain letters, and to write to her if he didn't come back. You know how eager didn't come back. You know how eager he was to go at first, and then how he came to us just before the start—after Captain Turner had been talking with him."
"I know," said Hazlett gravely. He had been thinking of just that same matter—of Fane's grave and anxious face as he came from that last conference with his centain.

naked eye. Certainly I can't."

"Sentry No. 3 did see it, sir," observed Capt. Hazlett very quietly. He had just reported it when the adjutant came for me. I doubt their having swung more than a very few minutes." captain.
"Well, dear, the letters came-yesterday. Meantime Cralg and his men, bending over their kits, had been busily at work. Presently at the tip of a long, jointed staff a copper torch was firmly set, the match applied, and a bright flame burst on the night. Then up it went to the vertical in the strong green of a tell inference. three of them, all postmarked Lenox, within ten days of each other. It is going to be hard to have to write to her." "Do you suppose there is an engage-ment?" he asked.

"He said no, but think—three letters in nine days, and in the height of a social season, and she a belle and much sought after."

Hazlett finished his coffee, and pushed back his chair. He was thinking deeply, painfully, and yet his arm encircled and drew her to his side. "I, too, have a letter, two letters in fact, only I haven't liked to speak of them as yet. I did not see my way. I hoped Fane didn't—care so much for—for—well, I suppose it's the same girl." girl."
"Why?" and her eyes opened wide as she

why? and her eyes opened wide as she turned her face full upon him.
"Oh, it's nothing against her!" he began in haste, for the tone of the question told the trend of her thought. "At least—well, it's from the general, his father. Colonel's pay, you know, doesn't go far at Fort Adams when wife and daughters delight in the casino and society." "But I thought he, or she, or both of

tioned one man, with pad and pencil, to record the message as it fell from the re-ceiver's lips. In breathless silence all watched and waited, listening intently. A them, had money."

"That's just it. That's just the worst of it," answered Hazlett gravely. "If they'd never had it, and had been bred to selfmoment of silence and the sergeant began slowly to speak. "Be ready, Klein," he murmured, to the recorder. "Here it murmured, to the recorder.

comes."

Only those who had glasses, and good ones, so great was the distance, could follow the swift, tiny, sparklike circling of the little red spot against the black background of the Mesa. Craig's lips began to twitch again. "To commanding officer," said he. "That's easy. Now! S-o-1-a-1-a-y. (Three) e-s-c-a-p-e-d. (Three, three) I-n-d-i-a-n-s (Three) s-a-y (Three) n-o-w (Three) denial and simple living it wouldn't be so hard. Nell, dear, Mrs. Fane has never been a Mrs. Hazlett, and now the dear old fellow is worrying his heart out over the situation. Her money, what there was of it, went five years ago. His hasn't been enough to supply the demand. Now he's a poor man, with a wife and daughters l-i-a-n-s (Three) s-a-y (Three) n-o-w (Three) s-a-f-e (Three) S-i-e-r-r-a (Three) B-l-a-n-c-a richly endowed in the extravagances of life. He has heard fabulous tales of Arizona (Three three). F-a-n-e (Three) a-n-d (three) a-l-l (Three) d-e-c-l-a-r-e-d (Three) k-i-l-lmines—that led to his letters. Then he began to open his heart, He says there's only e-d (Three three). Sig. Waters, Agt. (Three three). Concluded the sergeant, with professional gravity. "Up, Smith! Acknowledge!" And while the signal man slowly swung the message "We understand," with misery in his trembling voice the major turned to Cant Haglett a little life insurance; that he can't live many years; that his boy may have to look out for the mother and some of the sisters, and he fears Ronald has fallen in love. Bad as that was, how infinitely worse will it be if—we've lost him entirely." "Can you believe that—possible?"
"Quite, sir," said Hazlett dryly, "if Turner obeyed the orders I hear were—given him," which was as near to insubordination as Hazlett had ever been known to go.

She bowed her head upon the broad shoulder with its worn old strap of tarnished gold and pallid blue. "Fallen in leve!" she cried. "Why, Ned, he almost worships that girl, I believe! What's more, I believe she cares for him. Listen! There's I believe she cares for him. Listen! There's

some one running?" Hazlett was first at the door, his young wife close following. Somebody was running, running swiftly, up the gentle slope toward the commanding officer's, at whose window a light was dimly burning. Other lights were blinking in the low log bar-racks across the quadrangle and down at racks across the quadrangle and down at the loop-holed guardhouse, where, in the faint moonbeams, half a dozen dark forms were huddled in a bunch. Hazlett quickly buckled on his sword belt, and, with a re-assuring word, left her at the doorway. News of some kind, he argued, must have come, and he preferred to get it first hand rather than through the medium of the post commander.

REFUSES TO PAY CLAIM.

The Government to Ask Rehearing of Case Recently Decided.

The Secretary of War has written a letter in reply to a claim against the government of the United States for duty collected at the port of Manila between April 11, 1899, and October 25, 1901, the claim being based on the recent decision of the Supreme Court of the United States in the case of Warner, Barnes & Co., or Peabody & Co. versus the United States, in which he says: "The government is not disposed to concede the justice of the claims and proposes to file a petition for rehearing in proposes to hie a petition for rehearing in the cases to which you refer, and to pre-sent many grounds which it hopes will convince the court of the error made in the conclusion reached. This determination on the part of the government renders it, of course, impossible for us either to recog-nize the validity of the claim or to call the attention of any other department of the government to the necessity for its pay-ment."

Promoted From the Banks.

Second Lieut. John N. Turgeon, Philippine Scouts, recently promoted from bat-Phone N. 1881.

Phone N. 1881.

WARNED BY CORTELYOU

POSTAL EMPLOYES MUST GIVE UP POLITICAL ACTIVITY.

Instructions Sent to the Postmaster at Louisville at the Suggestion of the Civil Service Commission.

Postmaster General Cortelyou, at the suggestion of the civil service commission, has forwarded to the postmaster at Louisville, Ky., a set of general instructions in accordance with the rules of the civil service concerning the activity in politics of employes of the Post Office Department. The instructions, in full, follow:

"Inform Mr. William A. Evans that it is the opinion of the department that if he desires to retain his position as assistant postmaster he should retire from membership on the republican state central committee of Kentucky.

"Bring to the attention of the classified employes of your office the civil service regulations relative to activity in politics and request such employes to comply strictly with the spirit of the regulations in ques-

"Assign to Mr. John W. Cassaday such duties only as it is proper under the civil service regulations for an employe of his status to perform. "Please submit to the department as promptly as possible a full report of your action under these instructions."

Result of an Investigation.

This action was the outcome of an investigation made at the Louisville office by Commissioner Greene. The report of the ommission on the subject suggests that Mr. Evans should be required to retire from the republican state central committee of Kentucky; that Mr. Cassaday should be relieved of his clerical duties, which should be given to a man in the classified service. and that Mr. Cassaday should either be re-tired or assigned to laborer's work; that the postmaster at Louisville should be in-formed that it is improper for classified employes to take active part in politics, and should be required to effectually prevent the wholesale activity of these employes in future political campaigns in Kentucky. Mr. Cortelyou has been quoted as saying that the very best service a postmaster can give his party is in the proper administration of his office and that other ac-

the Postmaster General is presumed to be in a position to know what is best for his Only Following Precedent.

tivity, such as indulgence in politics, should

be discouraged. From his position as the chairman of the largest and most influen-

tial political organization in the country

Whether or not the rule laid down for the guidance of the postmaster at Louisville will be followed by those higher up in the political scale remains to be seen. The case is by no means novel, many political came the head.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

The New Novel by the Author of MRS. WIGGS' LOVEY MARY Alice Hegan Rice Illustrate \$ 1.00

warned that "pernicious political activity" would result in their separation from the service. This rule has been one of the bulwarks of the civil service, and has resulted in the displacement of many officials during the years it has been in force. In renewing the advice, which is strictly in the nature of a command, the Postmaster General but follows a precedent set him by several of his predecessors in office and by other members of the cabinet.

It is said to be the intention of the Post-master General to issue a circular to all postmasters, in which they will be instructed in these rules of the civil service, after which, if they do not possess the proper amount and quality of gray matter to comprehend their meaning it is more than likely that they will be relieved from their duties in the government service and per-mitted to devote their entire time and labors to the political organizations with which they chance to be affiliated.

Commander Sims to Go Abroad.

Lieut, Commander William S. Sims, U. S. N., inspector of target practice, has left Washington for England to obtain information about gunnery, target practice and other matters coming within his field. He may go to France and Germany before his return, though this has not been settled. On his return he will make a confidential report to the department incorporating cer-tain recommendations based on observations made during his trip.

President Castro Establishes Arbor Day President Castro has issued a decree seting aside May 23 to be observed annually as Arbor day of the Venezuelan republic. This is the anniversary of the day on which President Castro took up arms against the government of which he subsequently be-

Less Than One Year Ago

we announced the completion of one of the greatest literary achievements of recent times, the publication of the final volume of

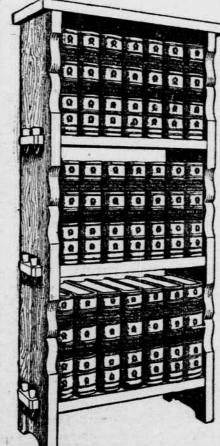
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